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**CLAIMS:** The following is a list of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.

1.-18. (CANCELED)

19. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer comprising: a) one or more air gapped parallel plate variable capacitors, where one of the plates of said variable capacitors is an electrically conducting, non-vibrating surface mounted close to a vibrating surface on a musical instrument that emits sound when said instrument is played, while the other of said plates is an electrically conducting surface that comprises, covers, or is embedded within said vibrating surface, combined with b) an electric circuit that applies a voltage difference to said variable capacitors, detects time-varying differences in voltage across said variable capacitors caused by vibrations in said vibrating surfaces, and converts said voltage differences into signals transmissible to and usable by audio recording and amplification equipment, where said signals at a given time correspond to the exact vibrational state induced in said vibrating surfaces of said musical instrument at that time by the player of said musical instrument.
20. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where said variable capacitors vibrate in response to direct

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mechanical stimulation of said vibrating surfaces by the player of said instrument.

21. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where said variable capacitors vibrate in response to vibrations in stretched strings mechanically connected to said vibrating surfaces, where said string vibrations are induced by the player of said instrument.

22. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within a soundboard.

23. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within a part of a musical instrument that functions as a soundboard.

24. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within a drumhead.

25. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within a cymbal.

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26. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within a banjo membrane.
27. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within the solid portions of a hollow guitar body.
28. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one of said variable capacitor plates comprises, covers, or is embedded within the solid portions of a hollow violin, viola, cello, or bass body.
29. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where one or more of said variable capacitor plates comprises a woven or mesh-like material.
30. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where said electric circuit comprises transistorized circuitry.
31. (NEW) An electric musical instrument transducer as described in Claim 19, where said electric circuit comprises vacuum tube circuitry.